

Libraries (T.H.) - VCP
**New Committee May Speed
 Public Library Construction**
 Community Affairs

Terre Haute will hopefully see progress made toward construction of a badly-needed new library during 1974. Delays in the building program have already added to the construction costs and have deprived county residents of added services and facilities which the current main building cannot possibly provide.

Progress was noted at the December meeting when a 10-member Ad Hoc Citizens Advisory Committee was established. The members were appointed by the Library Board and the Vigo County Public Library staff.

It will be the purpose of the committee to interpret to the community the actions of the Library Board in its progress toward the construction of a new main library building, and to relate to the Board the attitudes, opinions, questions and comments from the community.

In the near future, the committee will elect a chairman to coordinate the activities and to act as liaison between the committee and the president of the board.

The Library Board should be congratulated on the establishment of this committee which hopefully will help clear up misunderstandings and problems which have delayed the start of the new library building.

Sp JAN 5 1974

Libraries (T.H.) - VCP
**Library Board
 Advisors Slate
 First Session**
 Community Affairs File

JAN 8 1974

The first meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Main Library Building Program will be Saturday, according to John Valle, president of the Vigo County Library Board.

Among the items expected to be taken up are the structure of the committee, election of a chairman, operational procedures, task objectives, and priorities.

The organizational session is closed to the public. Future meeting policies will be as established by the committee.

The Citizens Advisory Committee was created by the Library Board in October to interpret to the community the actions of the Library Board in its progress toward the construction of a new main library building, and to relate to the board the attitudes, opinions, questions and comments from the community.

The 10 members of the committee are Ned A. Bush, Sr., curator, Debs House; Arch Dunbar, president, Wabash Federal Savings and Loan; George Everett Dunkin, vice president, Toyota of Terre Haute; Thomas Finnerty, president, Terre Haute Savings Bank; Mrs. Donna M. Keith, secretary, VCSC; Mrs. Alice Kieweg; Mrs. Linda Kotter, nurse, Medical Arts Business Office; Patrick O'Leary, president, Terre Haute Area Chamber of Commerce; Mrs. Marilyn Pendergast; and Dr. Richard Pierard, professor of history, ISU.

The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Audio Visual Workroom at the Emeline Fairbanks Library, 222 N. 7th St.

Libraries (T.H.) - VCP
**Big Increase
 In Materials**
 Community Affairs File

FEB 3 1974

The Vigo County public Library 1973 annual inventory shows a sizeable increase in materials added last year according to Mrs. Irene McDonough, coordinator, Technical Services Department.

Books added to the main and branch libraries in 1973 totaled 22,910; with the total public library book collection now showing 235,727. About 60 per cent of this total is located in the Emeline Fairbanks building, and about 3,000 books are boxed and in separate storage, Mrs. McDonough says.

Branch libraries show book collections ranging from 15,000 to 30,000, with Meadows Branch the largest and West Terre Haute the smallest.

Other materials also showed considerable gains in 1973. Mrs. McDonough points out. Of non-book materials the 16mm film category showed the most sizeable gain. This collection added 91 new films, making a total of 517 16mm optical sound films. This figure includes the films purchased as part of a federally funded humanities project grant.

Other non-book materials added include 908 phonorecords, 134 8mm films, 148 slides, 23 filmstrips, 32 games and 42 audiotapes.

Non-book printed material included a total of 4,934 magazines, 1,090 newspapers, and 15,424 other informational pieces. Microfilmed magazines, newspapers and books added to this collection 1,920 reels.

A few materials did not show a gain in 1973, Mrs. McDonough reports. The art print total remained at the 1972 figure of 171 and the micro-opaque cards at 425. Others showing the same totals as the previous year were Viewmaster reels and study pictures.

Inventory figures are based on accounts kept through the year in some cases, and on a year-end count in others, Mrs. McDonough says. Figures are used in report forms required by the Indiana State Library in Indianapolis.

Library Board Adopts Three Recommendations

FEB 19 1974

Three recommendations by the Citizens Advisory Committee to the Vigo County Library Board relating to the construction of a new main library building were accepted during the board's meeting Monday evening.

The possible filing of a "friendly" lawsuit against the VCLB by the Terre Haute League of Women Voters to determine the legal status of the board was also discussed by the library trustees.

By unanimous vote, the board voted to accept three specific recommendations offered by Ned Bush, Sr., on behalf of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

The recommendations accepted were:

—Posting of signs on the property of the former Wiley High School at 7th and Walnut streets identifying it as the site of the new main library.

—Acceptance of the Building

Program Statement as submitted in September, 1972, with the recognition that flexibility will be required in the interpretation and implementation of the statement.

—Taking of proper steps to appropriate adequate funds to the Building Program for consultant fees, schematic drawings and related expenses necessary to expedite the building program.

Following acceptance of the advisory committee's recommendations, president John Valle opened a public hearing on an appropriation of \$30,000 from the Library Improvement Reserve Fund to the Building Program for consultant fees and related expenses.

There were no objections from anyone in the audience, but trustee Mrs. Charlotte Caldwell asked if the board were talking about architect fees or consultant fees, to which Mrs.

Betty Martin, assistant library director, responded that the board was not actually hiring an architect for the project by approving the appropriation.

Mrs. Martin then explained that approval of the appropriation would authorize work on schematics for the building project. Referring to an approximate time schedule she noted that various steps of the project would require about 10 months between adoption of the building program Monday night and the actual advertising of bids.

Dr. Iverson Bell, a board member, responded to the discussion by criticizing the amount of money already spent on preliminary studies and aspects of the library project, noting that the total had reached \$10,000.

"I'm not in favor of continually spending money like this," Dr. Bell commented. "We're constantly spending money and having nothing to show for it.

If we're going to build, let's employ an architect and stop throwing money out the window."

"It is my position that if we put this project on the open market, then architects who are interested in submitting bids can prepare and submit schematics," he continued. "I don't think it's wise for us to keep hiring consultants and advisors."

"Let's present a proposition," Dr. Bell urged. "We have business to sell and I'm sure there are many firms who would like to have that business. I think we'd be much better off to have these people coming to us with their plans than to have this board and, ultimately, the taxpayers, continue to shoulder the load."

Considerable discussion followed Dr. Bell's remarks before it was agreed that approval of the \$30,000 appropriation

Continued On Page 2, Col. 6.

would not be binding on how the money is to be spent. It was noted that part of that sum will be used to pay consultant fees currently owed.

Near the conclusion of the meeting, Valle displayed a copy of a newspaper article that appeared in the SUNDAY TRIBUNE-STAR on Feb. 10 concerning the possible filing of a "friendly" lawsuit against the library board by the Terre Haute League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Barbara Daily, president of the league, who was present at the meeting, told Valle the organization believed there was a legal question about the status of the board, which also serves as the Vigo County School Corporation board of trustees.

Mrs. Daily reiterated that the League of Women Voters favored the building of a new main library and had filed the suit so that the legal status of the board could be determined. The board has been unable to obtain bonding counsel because of uncertain legal standing.

Mrs. Daily and Mary Lou Reynolds, attorney for the league, said that petitions had been distributed in an effort to determine public sentiments about a possible friendly lawsuit.

The league president explained there was nothing secretive about the petitions and emphasized that the project was not intended to reflect any wrongdoing on the part of the board.

Although Valle said he understood the group's apparent intent, he expressed concern that he and other board members had received questions about the possibility of the suit when, in fact, they knew of no such action.

In other action, the board gave permission for the advertisement of a \$40,000 appropriation from the Library Improvement Reserve Fund for the purchase of a mediamobile. Several steps remain before bids for the new vehicle can be advertised.

Earlier in the meeting the board heard a report from Fletcher "Bill" Gates, librarian at the West Terre Haute branch, where the board meeting was conducted. Irene McDonough, coordinator of technical services for the library system, also presented a report.

Besides Valle, Mrs. Caldwell and Dr. Bell, other board members present for the meeting were John Sutherland, Peter Farmer and William Llewellyn. Paul Haas was absent.

Mrs. Martin represented Ed Howard, library director, who is recovering from recent surgery.

The next library board meeting will be conducted on Monday, March 18, at the Meadows Shopping Center Hospitality Room.

Report Gives Statistics for Vigo Library

Community Affairs File

The annual statistical report for the Vigo County Public Library system has been published, and is available to the public, says Mrs. Betty Martin, VCPL assistant director.

"Facts About The Vigo County Public Library" compiles the 1973 year-end figure totals and gives a brief survey of the services and information resources of the VCPL.

In addition to the library budget, the list gives the total inventory of all the materials in the library collection.

"The latest figure shows a total of over 640,000 items in the materials collection," Mrs. Martin says.

Equipment resources are also listed in the fact sheet. They include items like motion picture and filmstrip projectors, audiotape player-recorders, and videotape player-recorders.

Other resources are listed, such as publications prepared by the library for community use, such as the "Program Resource Handbook," "Directory of Voluntary Organizations," "Where to Volunteer in Vigo County," "What to See in Vigo County," "Mediamobile Schedule," and "Community Services for Senior Citizens."

The 1974 fact sheets will be available free of charge in all the agencies of the library — Main, 222 N. 7th St., the branches in Southland, Plaza North and Meadows Shopping Centers, in West Terre Haute and on the Mediamobile, according to Mrs. Martin.

T AUG 7 1975

Dr. Biberstine Heads State Reading Group

The Indiana Reading Professor's Council of the International Reading Association has elected Dr. Richard D. Biberstine, professor in the Department of Elementary Education at Indiana State University, as president of the council.

The purpose of this meeting was to consider the 1975-76 programs, budget, and the organizing of the standing committees. Those present at the meeting included some committee chairpersons and the other officers. Other council officers present included President-Elect: Dr. Helen Lewis, Indiana University-South Bend; Past President: Dr. Nedra Kinerk; Treasurer: Dr. Tom Schroeder, Ball State University; and Secretary: Mrs. Martha Thompson of Vincennes University.

Dr. Biberstine is also active in the State Council of the I.R.A. serving as chairman of the Studies and Research Committee and a member of the Reading Awards Committee. Locally he served as president of the Wabash Valley Reading Council in 1972-73 and is presently a board member. For the past two years he has been chairman of a special project committee which had the

responsibility for the fund drive for the Right-to-Read Project. The Wabash Valley Reading Council sponsors this project to purchase tutoring materials for the Emeline Fairbanks Library.

Tentative TH-Harrison Tax Rate Now Reduced To \$13.24

The tentative property tax is expected to complete their cents in the county general fund budget.

work about noon.
The tentative property tax rate for Terre Haute-Harrison Township was set at \$13.24 Tuesday following the first day of tax units reviews by the State Board of Tax Commissioners.

Field representatives meeting in the second floor courthouse office of the Vigo County Commissioners, completed reviews of proposed rates for 14 county tax units. The board will reconvene at 8:30 a.m. Friday and

Leading off Friday's review will be consideration of the proposed rate for the Vigo County Public Library. The library board has filed an appeal of a \$40,000 cut in the 1972 library budget made in September by the county tax adjustment board.

The tentative rate of \$13.24 per \$100 of assessed valuation for Terre Haute-Harrison Township is \$1.23 less than the originally advertised rate of \$14.47. The figure, however, remains 76 cents higher than the current rate of \$12.48.

Other action by the state board Thursday resulted in a cut of slightly more than 27 cents in the county rate. The figure, set at \$2.42 by the local tax adjustment board, was reduced to \$2.15 by the state board. The largest out was 17

The original county rate had been advertised at \$2.84 before the County Council reduced it to about \$2.62. The county tax adjustment board sliced another 19.9 cents, or about \$400,000, from the rate, making it \$2.42

See TAX REVIEW
On Page 9, Column 3

Tax Review

Continued From Page 1
before Thursday's action lowering it to \$2.15.

Friday morning's review of the Vigo County Public Library tax rate and proposed budget will be watched with great interest by the library board and library director Edward N. Howard, who earlier sharply criticized the tax adjustment board's cuts.

Howard denounced the local board's Sept. 15 action that sliced two cents from the pro-

posed library tax rate. The board recommended that one cent be deleted from the working balance and the other from materials. The two-cent cut amounts to about \$40,000.

Howard called the reduction a "lack of understanding displayed by the tax adjustment board" and said the action was "actually an attack on the library board." The board voted at a meeting soon after the cut was announced to appeal the decision.

Mrs. Robert C. Byrd, recently named executive director of the Taxpayers Association of Vigo

County, Inc., attended Thursday's day-long state board session and will return to view Friday's proceedings. In September she represented the association at the review sessions of the county tax adjustment board.

Mrs. Byrd was named executive director of the Taxpayers Association on Oct. 7 when she assumed the duties of her father, Everett J. Acree, who resigned due to health reasons. For many years Acree had attended the review sessions.

Representing the State Board of Tax Commissioners at the two-day review are Tom Shel-

ton, Charles Burke, Frank Eads and Bob Campbell.

Following Friday's final review, the board representatives will return with their findings to Indianapolis for final study and computation. Final property tax rates for 1971 payable in 1972 are expected to be announced before the end of the year.

W. N. Cox Gives Set Of Books To Library

A 141-set of reference books containing reports of cases argued and decided in the U.S. Supreme Court was presented to the Vigo County Public Library Tuesday by W. N. Cox, local attorney.

The reports begin with the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

U.S. Supreme Court Reports, was also donated by Attorney Cox. These provide summaries of all decisions by topic and the popular name of the statute, such as Fair Labor Standards Act.

B. G. Cox, Jr., school board attorney, is giving reference librarians instructions in the use of the two sets of references, according to Vula Malooley, VCPL reference coordinator.

See Photo On Page 1

in 1754, continue with the Federal Court of Appeals in 1781, and the U.S. Supreme Court in 1789. The series is current to 1975, and is a lawyer's edition which the general public will find interesting and helpful. The volumes contain summaries of decisions, statements of cases, points and authorities of counsel, annotations, tables and parallel references.

A companion reference, a 21-volume set of Digests of the

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE



SUPREME COURT DECISIONS TO LIBRARY—The Vigo County Public Library Tuesday received a 141-volume set of cases argued and decided in the U.S. Supreme Court, presented by W.N. Cox, local attorney. Also donated by Cox was a companion reference, a 21-volume set of Digests of the U.S. Supreme Court Reports. Left to right are B. Guille-Cox, school board attorney; W. N. Cox, donor; Ed Howard, library director, placing the volumes in the library shelves; and Arch Dunbar, (rear) library board president. (Photo by Kadel) See story on page 32. *Jeff. City* OCT 1 1975

Vigo County Public Library

Libraries (TH)



Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE